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RECPT # Record

CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS

86-1652

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Services

FROM: Chief, Classification and Review Division

SUBJECT: Briefing of Senator Durenberger Staff Members on HRP

1. From 15:30 to 17:00 hours on 2 April in Room 1D29 at Headquarters two members of Senator Durenberger's Staff were briefed on the Historical Review Program (HRP). They were Edward P. Levine and John Nelson. The briefers were Ken McDonald, head of the History, C/CRD and C/CRD/HRB.

2. Mr. Levine first asked for background on the History Staff and McDonald covered that subject thoroughly which brought us up to the HRP period. McDonald then covered the creation of the HRP and provided some overview such as Director Casey's role and support for the program, the formation of the HRB, and the role of the History Staff in the HRP.

3. C/CRD then discussed in broad perspective the implementation of the HRP, experience in CRD that lent itself to the new program, our desire to make this a cooperative effort within the CIA, that information security is a line responsibility and we therefore need to get other components involved and kept them abreast of what we are doing, and that this approach was prudent and necessary to overcome concern over the large scale release of Agency information. At least this would limit the misunderstanding and lack of knowledge that often causes concern.

4. C/CRD/HRB then covered what the Branch has done and is doing. He covered the procedures used, pointed out that some procedures are still being developed and some will need modification based on actual experience, he identified the records that have been worked on, where we are in processing the three groups of records currently in the program, discussed some of the procedural problems and what has been done about them.

5. Ed Levine showed some understanding for security needs - "there is some information I would not want to see out even after 40 years" -, but he appears more interested in getting information out to the public - "well, if you release 99% of it you wouldn't have problems in controlling the remaining classified documents." He stated at one point that historians would love to get the official records of an operation to compare it with what had been written about it by those supposedly in the know. C/CRD pointed out that such records would probably be in designated files and wouldn't be considered for the HRP. At the end Levine had two questions:

Attachments

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- a. Did the HRP need more people?

ANSWER: C/CRD answered that it would be premature to increase personnel, it would be best to wait until the program settles down and we have a clearer picture of how efficient and effective we are with the current staff;

- b. Could he use the outline of our remarks as provided by Ken McDonald (copy attached) in remarks he will make before the Organization of American Historians, April (10-13, 1986 in New York)?

ANSWER: We told Levine that the outline was not classified . Nevertheless, he said that he would draft a page and a half on what he intends to say and will pass it by us before the meeting.

6. The meeting was held in a friendly atmosphere, there were no awkward moments and no indications other than one would find in a frank exchange of views. Levine said he appreciated the time we took to talk to him and discussed how he might pass the information on to two other Senators who would be interested in the HRP, Senators David L. Boren (Democrat, Oklahoma), and William S. Cohen, (Republican, Maine).

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Chief, Classification and Review Division

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2 April 1986

The Historical Review Program: 1983-1986

I. Origins: August 1983--October 1984

- A. DCI decision to release OSS records (August 1983)
- B. Casey-Durenberger exchange of letters (October 1983)
- C. CIA Information Act (October 1984)

II. Establishment: October 1984--June 1985

- A. Formation of Historical Review Branch (HRB) in OIS/CRD
 - 1. Organization & Staffing (since November 1984)
 - 2. Unprecedented program: issues (e.g. sources & methods)
 - 3. 10 additional spaces: 8 for HRB and 2 for DCI/HS
- B. DCI History Staff Advisory Role
 - 1. Liaison with public, private & academic historians (e.g. coordination with State on FRUS Supplements)
 - 2. Advice to HRB (selection, guidelines, public domain, etc.)
- C. Meeting with Consultants (March 1985)
 - 1. Consultants' report to DCI
 - 2. Return meeting in 1987
- D. DCI Report to Congress (May 1985)
- E. DCI Memo to All Employees (June 1985)

III. Development: since June 1985

- A. Procedures, guidelines and coordination with components
- B. Drafting Headquarters Regulation
- C. Actual review of records
 - 1. OSS operational records (11 increments since June 1984):
 - 1032 cu. ft. transferred and open at NARA
 - 165 cu. ft. transferred and in NARA processing
 - 400 cu. ft. estimated remaining OSS records to be transferred
 - 2. SSU (1945-1946)
 - 3. CIG (1946-1947)
 - 4. DCI (1945-1955)
 - 5. DS&T: U-2 (1952-1960)

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Seventy-Ninth
Annual Meeting

Organization of
American Historians

and the

Eighth
Annual Meeting

National Council on
Public History

April 10-13

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New York Penta

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W A SESSIONS

9:30 A.M.

M.A. 930

ENDING THE SLAVE TRADE TO THE AMERICAS: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES**PRESIDING:** JAMES E. RAWLEY, The University Libraries, University of Chicago**PAPERS:** The Impact of the Ending of the Slave Trade in the Americas
DAVID ELTIS, Algonquin College

Wage Slaves and Chattel Slaves: Labor Bargaining in Jamaica

MARY TURNER, Dalhousie University**COMMENT:** MICHAEL MULLIN, California State University at Sacramento

HERBERT S. KLEIN, Columbia University

9:30 A.M.

M.A. 930

ACCESS TO FEDERAL RECORDS**PRESIDING:** MILTON O. GUSTAFSON, Diplomatic Branch, National Archives**PAPERS:** Changing Government Information Policy

NANCY C. KRANICH, New York University and the American Library Association

Can Historians Affect the System?

EDWARD F. LEVINE, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence

The Government Historian and the Outside Researcher

SUSAN ROSENFELD FALB, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Historians' Use of the Freedom of Information Act: Opportunities and Obstacles

ATHAN G. THEOHARIS, Marquette University**COMMENT:** The Audience

SATURDAY

W A SESSIONS

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DAVID ELITE, Algonquin College

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MARY TURNER, Dalhousie University

COMMENT: MICHAEL MULLIN, California State University at Sacramento

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4/12/76 9:30 A.M.

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